



28 September 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

VIA: Director, Office of Legislative Liaison

FROM:
Chief, Liaison Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: Senator Patrick Leahy (D., VT)--Dissatisfaction
With Film Processing

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1. Senator Leahy took me aside today to complain in the most strenuous terms about CIA's poor development of several dozen rolls of color film he took on his August 1983 trip to the USSR. He complained specifically that some 150 frames were spoiled, including four blanked rolls with pictures of Soviet plane revetments, and Soviet ships in Leningrad harbor, plus a series of pictures with a green line through them. He remarked further on the unnecessary expense we had gone to to print a number of slides (which he acknowledged were good), and (speaking as an avid photographer himself) the relatively poor overall level of development of all Ektachrome pictures.

2. I knew this was coming and apologized, explaining that there had been a machine malfunction on the four rolls which could unfortunately happen at any time. While the Senator accepted the explanation, he observed that he had a working arrangement with Newsweek where he could have sent the films for processing and used the materials in some articles he was planning.

3. The vehemence of his presentation leaves no doubt that we came down in his eyes, and he is an important and involved Member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He made a special point of asking that we investigate this foul-up. The point here is that the Senator's reaction to this goof is unexpectedly deep-seated, and I doubt we shall easily recover from it.

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